SJS 44 (Rev. 12/07)

# CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVERSE OF THE FORM.)

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS				DEFENDANTS	"	
Joseph Posimo and An 325 Hoffenagle Street,		11	Ð			Charles Ramsey, Police
	e of First Listed Plaintiff F		-		f First Listed Defendant	Philadelphia
	EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CA			County of Residence o	(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES	
				•	D CONDEMNATION CASES, U NVOLVED.	SE THE LOCATION OF THE
(c) Attorney's (Firm Name	e, Address, and Telephone Numb	er)		Attorneys (If Known)		
√ Paul Bucci, II, Esquire	e			John Coyle, Esq.	, City of Philadelphia,	, 1515 Arch Street, 14th
_affey, Bucci & Kent, Ll		et, 7th Floor		Floor, Philadelph		· <u> </u>
II. BASIS OF JURISI	DICTION (Place an "X" i	n One Box Only)			RINCIPAL PARTIES	(Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff
☐ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	☑ 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government)	Not a Party)		(For Diversity Cases Only) PT on of This State		
2 U.S. Government	☐ 4 Diversity		Citize	n of Another State		
Defendant	(Indicate Citizenshi	p of Parties in Item III)			of Business In	Another State
IV. NATURE OF SUI	T (pt "V" :- A B A	1-2		n or Subject of a Greign Country	3	
CONTRACT	TO)		FO	RFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES
☐ 110 Insurance	PERSONAL INJURY	PERSONAL INJUR		0 Agriculture	☐ 422 Appeal 28 USC 158	U 400 State Reapportionment
☐ 120 Marine ☐ 130 Miller Act	☐ 310 Airplane ☐ 315 Airplane Product	362 Personal Injury - Med. Malpractic		0 Other Food & Drug 5 Drug Related Seizure	☐ 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157	☐ 410 Antitrust☐ 430 Banks and Banking
☐ 140 Negotiable Instrument ☐ 150 Recovery of Overpayment	Liability  320 Assault, Libel &	<ul> <li>365 Personal Injury - Product Liability</li> </ul>		of Property 21 USC 881 0 Liquor Laws	PROPERTY RIGHTS	☐ 450 Commerce ☐ 460 Deportation
& Enforcement of Judgment	Slander	☐ 368 Asbestos Persona	1 🗇 640	0 R.R. & Truck	☐ 820 Copyrights	☐ 470 Racketeer Influenced and
☐ 151 Medicare Act ☐ 152 Recovery of Defaulted	☐ 330 Federal Employers'  Liability	Injury Product Liability		0 Airline Regs. 0 Occupational	830 Patent 840 Trademark	Corrupt Organizations  3 480 Consumer Credit
Student Loans	340 Marine 345 Marine Product	PERSONAL PROPER	TY	Safety/Health		☐ 490 Cable/Sat TV
(Excl. Veterans)  153 Recovery of Overpayment	Liability	<ul><li>370 Other Fraud</li><li>371 Truth in Lending</li></ul>	14.540	O Other	SOCIAL SECURITY	☐ 810 Selective Service ☐ 850 Securities/Commodities/
of Veteran's Benefits  ☐ 160 Stockholders' Suits	☐ 350 Motor Vehicle ☐ 355 Motor Vehicle	☐ 380 Other Personal Property Damage		0 Fair Labor Standards Act	☐ 861 HIA (1395ff) ☐ 862 Black Lung (923)	Exchange  875 Customer Challenge
☐ 190 Other Contract	Product Liability	☐ 385 Property Damage	: 🗆 <b>7</b> 20	0 Labor/Mgmt, Relations	☐ 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g))	12 USC 3410
☐ 195 Contract Product Liability ☐ 196 Franchise	Injury	Product Liability		0 Labor/Mgmt.Reporting & Disclosure Act	☐ 864 SSID Title XVI ☐ 865 RSI (405(g))	☐ 890 Other Statutory Actions ☐ 891 Agricultural Acts
REAL PROPERTY  210 Land Condemnation	CIVIL RIGHTS  441 Voting	PRISONER PETITION  510 Motions to Vacat		0 Railway Labor Act 0 Other Labor Litigation	FEDERAL TAX SUITS  870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff	892 Economic Stabilization Act Section 1 893 Environmental Matters
☐ 220 Foreclosure	☐ 442 Employment	Sentence		l Empl. Ret. Inc.	or Defendant)	☐ 894 Energy Allocation Act
230 Rent Lease & Ejectment 240 Torts to Land	Accommodations	Habeas Corpus:  ☐ 530 General	- 1	Security Act	26 USC 7609	☐ 895 Freedom of Information Act
☐ 245 Tort Product Liability ☐ 290 All Other Real Property	☐ 444 Welfare ☐ 445 Amer. w/Disabilities -	☐ 535 Death Penalty ☐ 540 Mandamus & Otl	ner   166	IMMIGRATION  Naturalization Application		☐ 900Appeal of Fee Determination Under Equal Access
250 All Other Real Froperty	Employment	550 Civil Rights	□ 463	3 Habeas Corpus -		to Justice
	☐ 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other	555 Prison Condition		Alien Detainee 5 Other Immigration		950 Constitutionality of     State Statutes
	3 440 Other Civil Rights			Actions		
V. ORIGIN (Place	an "X" in One Box Only)					Appeal to District
	ate Court	Appellate Court	Reop	ened anothe		
VI. CAUSE OF ACTI	∩N		ie ming (i	Do not the jurisusciona	d statutes unless diversity):	<del></del>
VIII DYOUTED IN		ation under 42 U				
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	☐ CHECK IF THIS UNDER F.R.C.P.	IS A CLASS ACTION 23	1 DE	EMAND S	JURY DEMAND:	if demanded in complaint: : Ø Yes □ No
VIII. RELATED CAS IF ANY	E(S) (See instructions):	JUDGE			DOCKET NUMBER	
DATE 1/14/14		SIGNATURE OF AT	TORNEY	DF RECORD		
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RECEIPT# A	MOUNT	APPLYING IFP		JUDGE	MAG. IU	DGE

# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

JOSEPH POSIMO and : PHILADELPHIA COUNTY ANDREA POSIMO, h/w : COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

625 Hoffenagle Street :

Philadelphia, PA 19111 : DECEMBER TERM 2013

Plaintiffs, : No. 002699

:

v. :

THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA : <u>JURY TRIAL DEMANDED</u>

1515 Arch Street, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor : Philadelphia, PA 19102 :

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CHARLES RAMSEY :

One Franklin Square, Room 314 Philadelphia, PA 19106

ROBERT KANE 9300 Treaty Road Philadelphia, PA 19114

:

Defendants.

#### NOTICE OF REMOVAL

# To the Honorable Judges of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1441, defendants, Commissioner Charles Ramsey, Polie Officer Robert Kane, and City of Philadelphia (hereinafter "petitioners") through their counsel, John Coyle, Assistant City Solicitor, respectfully petition for the removal of this action to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. In support thereof, defendants state the following:

- 1. In December, 2013, plaintiffs initiated this action by a Complaint in the Court of Common Pleas in Philadelphia, December Term, 2013; No. 2699. (Exhibit A Complaint).
  - 2. On December 31, 2013 said Complaint was served on Petitioner at 1515 Arch Street,

14th Floor, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

- 3. Plaintiffs allege that they sustained damages when their civil rights were violated by the defendants. (Exhibit A).
- 4. This action may be removed to this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1441 since Plaintiff's Complaint contains allegations of violations of the plaintiff's Federal Civil Rights and seeks relief under 42 U.S.C. § 1983. (Exhibit A)

Wherefore, petitioners, Commissioner Charles Ramsey, Police Officer Robert Kane, and City of Philadelphia, respectfully request that the captioned Complaint be removed to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

Respectfully submitted,

Craig M. Straw Chief Deputy City Solicitor

Assistant City Solicitor Attorney I.D. No. 312084 1515 Arch Street, 14th Floor Philadelphia, PA 19102

215-683-5434

Date: 1/14/14

# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

JOSEPH POSIMO and : PHILADELPHIA COUNTY ANDREA POSIMO, h/w : COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

625 Hoffenagle Street

Philadelphia, PA 19111 : DECEMBER TERM 2013

Plaintiffs, : No. 002699

:

:

THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA : <u>JURY TRIAL DEMANDED</u>
1515 Arch Street, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor :

- '

CHARLES RAMSEY
One Franklin Square, Room 314

Philadelphia, PA 19106

ROBERT KANE

9300 Treaty Road Philadelphia, PA 19114

Philadelphia, PA 19102

v.

Defendants.

### **NOTICE OF FILING OF REMOVAL**

TO: V. Paul Bucci, II, Esquire Laffey, Bucci & Kent, LLP 7<sup>th</sup> Floor Philadelphia, PA 19102

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT on, defendants, Commissioner Charles Ramsey, Police Officer Robert Kane, and City of Philadelphia filed, in the office of the Clerk of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania a verified Notice of Removal.

A copy of this Notice of Removal is attached hereto and is also being filed with the Clerk

of the Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia County, pursuant to Title 28, United States Code,

Section 1446(e).

OHN COYLE

Assistant City Solicitor Attorney I.D. No. 312084

City of Philadelphia Law Department 1515 Arch Street, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor Philadelphia, PA 19102 215-683-5434

## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

JOSEPH POSIMO and PHILADELPHIA COUNTY ANDREA POSIMO, h/w COURT OF COMMON PLEAS :

625 Hoffenagle Street

Philadelphia, PA 19111 **DECEMBER TERM 2013** 

> Plaintiffs, No. 002699

THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA **JURY TRIAL DEMANDED** 

1515 Arch Street, 14th Floor Philadelphia, PA 19102

**CHARLES RAMSEY** 

One Franklin Square, Room 314

Philadelphia, PA 19106

ROBERT KANE 9300 Treaty Road

Philadelphia, PA 19114

 $\mathbf{v}$ .

Defendants.

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, John Coyle, Assistant City Solicitor, do hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the attached Notice of Removal has been served upon the following by First Class Mail, postpaid, on the date indicated below:

V. Paul Bucci, II, Esquire Laffey, Bucci & Kent, LLP 7<sup>th</sup> Floor Philadelphia, PA 19102

JOHN COYLE

Assistant City Solicitor Attorney ID No. 312084

City of Philadelphia Law Department 1515 Arch Street, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor Philadelphia, PA 19102 215-683-5434

Date:

Exhibit "A"

# **Civil Cover Sheet**

DICOMBER 2018

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		Read Strate Control and Strategic Strategic Control of Strategic Control	STATE OF THE PROPERTY OF THE P		
PLAINTIFF'S NAME		DEFENDANT'S NAME			
JOSEPH POSIMO		CITY OF PHILADELPHIA			
		()FC			
PLAINTIFF'S ADDRESS		DEFENDANT'S ADDRESS			
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PHILADELPHIA PA 19111	· • :	PHILADELPHIA PA 19102			
	and the second				
PLAINTIFF'S NAME	* 2016.	DEFENDANT'S NAME			
ANDREA POSIMO		CHARLES RAMSEY			
1	<b>4</b>	V <			
PLAINTIFF'S ADDRESS	<del></del>	DEFENDANT'S ADDRESS			
625 HOFFENAGLE STREET		ONE FRANKLIN SQUARE RO	OOM 314		
PHILADELPHIA PA 19111		PHILADELPHIA PA 19106			
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PLAINTIFF'S NAME		DEFENDANT'S NAME			
*	>	BOBERT KANE			
		XZ	tge.		
PLAINTIFF'S ADDRESS		DEFENDANT'S ADDRESS			
		9300 TREATY ROAD			
		PHILADELPHIA PA 19114	PHILADELPHIA PA 19114		
TOTAL NUMBER OF PLAINTIFFS TO	OTAL NUMBER OF DEFENDANTS COM	MENCEMENT OF ACTION			
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TO THE PROTHONOTARY:	J	. MURPHY			
	J	. MURPHY	NDREA POSIMO		
Kindly enter my appearance on	J behalf of Plaintiff/Petitioner/App	. MURPHY	NDREA POSIMO		
	J behalf of Plaintiff/Petitioner/App	. MURPHY	NDREA POSIMO		
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Kindly enter my appearance on	J behalf of Plaintiff/Petitioner/App dress set forth below.	MURPHY ellant: JOSEPH POSIMO , A			
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Kindly enter my appearance on Papers may be served at the ad NAME OF PLAINTIFF SPETITIONER'S APPELL V PAUL BUCCI II PHONE NUMBER	J behalf of Plaintiff/Petitioner/App dress set forth below.  _ANT'S ATTORNEY  FAX NUMBER	ADDRESS LAFFEY, BUCCI & KENT 1435 WALNUT STREET 7TH FLOOR	, LLP		
Kindly enter my appearance on Papers may be served at the ad NAME OF PLAINTIFF'S/PETITIONER'S/APPELL V PAUL BUCCI II  PHONE NUMBER (215) 399-9252	J behalf of Plaintiff/Petitioner/App dress set forth below.  _ANT'S ATTORNEY  FAX NUMBER	ADDRESS LAFFEY, BUCCI & KENT 1435 WALNUT STREET 7TH FLOOR PHILADELPHIA PA 1910	, LLP		
Kindly enter my appearance on Papers may be served at the ad NAME OF PLAINTIFF'S/PETITIONER'S/APPELL V PAUL BUCCI II  PHONE NUMBER (215) 399-9252  SUPREME COURT IDENTIFICATION NO.	J behalf of Plaintiff/Petitioner/App dress set forth below.  _ANT'S ATTORNEY  FAX NUMBER	ADDRESS LAFFEY, BUCCI & KENT 1435 WALNUT STREET 7TH FLOOR PHILADELPHIA PA 1910	, LLP		
Kindly enter my appearance on Papers may be served at the ad NAME OF PLAINTIFF'S/PETITIONER'S/APPELL V PAUL BUCCI II  PHONE NUMBER (215) 399-9252  SUPREME COURT IDENTIFICATION NO.	behalf of Plaintiff/Petitioner/App dress set forth below.  ANT'S ATTORNEY  FAX NUMBER (215) 241-8700	ADDRESS LAFFEY, BUCCI & KENT 1435 WALNUT STREET 7TH FLOOR PHILADELPHIA PA 1910	, LLP		
Kindly enter my appearance on Papers may be served at the ad NAME OF PLAINTIFF SPETITIONER'S APPELL V PAUL BUCCI II  PHONE NUMBER (215) 399-9252  SUPREME COURT IDENTIFICATION NO. 87394	behalf of Plaintiff/Petitioner/App dress set forth below.  ANT'S ATTORNEY  FAX NUMBER (215) 241-8700	ADDRESS LAFFEY, BUCCI & KENT 1435 WALNUT STREET 7TH FLOOR PHILADELPHIA PA 1910 E-MAILADDRESS pbucci@lbk-law.com	, LLP 2		

### LAFFEY, BUCCI & KENT, LLP

IDENTIFICATION NO.: 87394/316461 V. PAUL BUCCI, ESQUIRE/STEPHEN T. KULP. ESQUIRE 1435 WALNUT STREET, 7<sup>th</sup> FLOOR PHILADELPHIA, PA 19102

(215) 399-9255

JOSEPH POSIMO and ANDREA POSIMO, h/w 625 Hoffenagle Street Philadelphia, PA 19111

Plaintiffs,

٧.

THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA
1515 Arch Street, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor
Philadelphia, PA 19102

CHARLES RAMSEY One Franklin Square, Room 314 Philadelphia, PA 19106

ROBERT KANE 9300 Treaty Road Philadelphia, PA 19114

Defendants.

PHILADELPHIA COUNTY
COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

ATTORNEYS FOR PLA

TERM, 2013

No.

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

#### NOTICE TO DEFEND

#### NOTICE

"You have been sued in court. If you wish to defend against the claims set forth in the following pages, you must take action within twenty (20) days after this complaint and notice are served, by entering a written appearance personally or by an attorney and filing in writing with the court your defenses or objections to the claims set forth against you. You are warned that if you fail to do so the case may proceed without you and a judgement may be entered against you by the court without further notice for any money claimed in the complaint or for any other claim or relief requested by the plaintiff. You may lose money or property or other rights important to you.

"YOU SHOULD TAKE THIS PAPER TO YOU LAWYER AT-ONCE. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A LAWYER OR CANNOT AFFORD ONE, GO TO OR TELEPHONE THE OFFICE SET FORTH BELOW TO FIND OUT WHERE YOU CAN GET LEGAL HELP.

PHILADELPHIA BAR ASSOCIATION LAWYER REFERRAL and INFORMATION SERVICE One Reading Center Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107 (215) 238-1701" "AVISO

"Le han demandado a usted en la corte. Si usted quiere defenderse do estas demandas expuestas en las páginas siguients, usted tiene veinte (20) dias, de plazo al partir de la fecha de la demanda y la notificatión. Hace falta asentar una comparenca escrita o en persona o con un abagado y entregar a la corte en forma escrita sus defensas o sus objecciones a las demandas en contra de su persona. Sea avisado que si usted no de defiende, la corte tomará medidas y puede continuar la demanda en contra suya sin previo aviso o notificaion. Además, la corte puede decidir a favor del demandante y requiere que usted cumpla con todas las provisiones de esta demanda. Usted puede perder dinero o sus propiedades u otros derechos importantes para usted.

"LLEVE ESTA DEMANDA A UN ABOGADO INMEDIATAMENTE. SI NO TIENE ABAGADO O SI NO TIENE EL DINERO SUFICIENTE DE PARGAR TAL SERVICO, VAYA EN PERSONA O LLAME POR TELEFONO A LA OFICINA CUYA DIRECCION SE ENCUENTRA ESCRITA ABAJO PARA AVERIGUAR DONDE SE PUEDE CONSEGUIR ASISTENCIA LEGAL

ASSOCIACION DE LICENDIADOS DE FILADELFIA SERVICO DE REFERENCA E INFORMACION LEGAL One Reading Center Filadelfia, Pennsylvania 19107 Telefono: (215) 238-1701"

Case ID: 131202699

#### **COMPLAINT**

- 1. Plaintiffs, Joseph Posimo and Andrea Posimo, h/w, are adult individuals residing at 625 Hoffnagle Street, Philadelphia, PA 19111.
- 2. Upon information and belief, Defendant, Robert Kane, is a citizen and resident of Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania, and was at all times material to the allegations in this Complaint, acting in his capacity as a Police Officer/Detective employed by the City of Philadelphia and was acting under color of state law.
- 3. The Defendant, Charles Ramsey, is a citizen and resident of Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania, and was at all times material to the allegations in this Complaint, acting in his capacity as a Commissioner of the Police Department of the City of Philadelphia and was acting under color of state law. Defendant Ramsey was at all times material hereto responsible for the supervision and training of Defendant Kane. Defendant Ramsey, as the Commissioner of the Police Department, is further responsible for making and/or implementing policies and practices used by law enforcement officers employed by the City of Philadelphia regarding arrests, investigations and detentions.
- 4. The Defendant, City of Philadelphia, is a municipality of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for which Defendant Kane serves as police officer/detective and Defendant Ramsey serves as Police Commissioner. The City of Philadelphia is responsible for the training and supervision of Defendants Ramsey and Kane. The City of Philadelphia has established and implemented policies, practices, procedures, and customs used by law enforcement officials employed by the City regarding probable cause, arrests, investigations and detentions.
- 5. Defendants, City of Philadelphia and Commissioner Charles Ramsey, are being sued, *inter alia*, for their failure to adopt and maintain adequate policies practices, procedures,

-2- Case ID: 13120269

and customs in the Philadelphia Police Department that would have prevented the injuries sustained by Plaintiffs.

- 6. On or about January 7, 2012, Plaintiff, Joseph Posimo, was arrested at the place of his employment, in front of customers and co-workers, and removed from the premises in handcuffs on charges of theft and conspiracy to commit theft.
- 7. It is believed and therefore averred that a warrant was contemporaneously issued and instituted against Plaintiff, Andrea Posimo.
- 8. After Joseph Posimo's arrest, Plaintiff, Andrea Posimo communicated with the fifteenth (15<sup>th</sup>) police district regarding the charges against Plaintiffs.
- 9. It is believed and therefore averred, at all times relevant hereto, Plaintiff, Andrea Posimo relied on the communications made by and between Plaintiff and Defendants' agents, employees, and/or servants and workmen at the fifteenth (15<sup>th</sup>) police district.
- 10. It is believed and therefore averred that Plaintiff, Andrea Posimo, was informed that Plaintiffs' criminal charges were being directed to the Domestic Affairs unit and that her warrant was not for her arrest.
- 11. It is believed and therefore averred that Philadelphia Police Detective Killman, of Domestic Affairs, assured Plaintiff, Andrea Posimo, she would not be arrested if Plaintiff agreed to meet with Detective Killman regarding charges against Plaintiff, Joseph Posimo.
- 12. However, on January 10, 2012, Plaintiff Andrea Posimo was arrested at her place of residence, in front of her son, located at 625 Hoffnagle Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19111.
- 13. At the time of her arrest, Plaintiff, Andrea Posimo, was thrown against a refrigerator by two police officers and two detectives and subsequently handcuffed.

- 14. As a result of Plaintiff, Andrea Posimo's arrest, Plaintiff was processed and confined overnight at the fifteenth (15<sup>th</sup>) police district.
- 15. It is believed and therefore averred that Plaintiffs' arrests were made with knowledge that there was no probable cause to arrest. Rather, the arrests were made as a result of purely personal motivation and reasons of Detective Kane and his family, and that approval of said warrants/arrests were as a result of the policies and procedures of the fifteenth (15<sup>th</sup>) police district and/or Philadelphia Police Department.
- 16. Upon release, Plaintiffs filed a formal complaint against the City of Philadelphia Police Department.
- 17. It is believed and therefore averred that the Domestic Affairs Unit conducted an investigation based on Plaintiffs' Complaint which was referred to Captain McGinnis on or about May 24, 2012 and resulted in disciplinary action being taken against Detective Kane.
- 18. Each of the Defendants, individually, and in concert with the others, acted under color of law in his/their official capacity, to deprive the Plaintiffs of their rights to freedom from illegal searches and seizure of his person; his rights to freedom from unlawful arrest, bodily restraints, physical punishment, detention, and imprisonment; and his right to freedom from cruel and unusual punishment in the form of the use of excessive and unnecessary force.
- 19. The Defendants, Charles Ramsey and the City of Philadelphia, failed to adequately supervise the Defendant, Robert Kane and his supervisors at the Fifteenth (15<sup>th</sup>) District.
- 20. At the time of the incidents alleged herein and before, the Plaintiffs were emotionally and physically healthy, active, and fully capable of engaging in normal day-to-day activities. Since the time of Plaintiffs' false arrest, assault, battery, false imprisonment, and cruel

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and unusual punishment at the hands of Defendant Officers, Plaintiffs have required medical care and attention to treat anxiety, high blood pressure, sleeplessness, and depression.

- 21. As a direct and proximate result of the intentional and/or negligent acts of the Defendants, the incapacitated Plaintiffs have suffered severe mental and physical injury.
- 22. As a direct and proximate result of the intentional and/or negligent acts of the Defendants, Plaintiffs have incurred and continue to incur medical expenses for the treatment of Plaintiffs' injuries.
- 23. As a direct and proximate result of the intentional and/or negligent conduct of Defendants, Plaintiffs have suffered a loss of earnings, earnings capacity, and a loss of life's pleasures.
- 24. As a direct and proximate result of the intentional and/or negligent conduct of Defendants, Plaintiffs were caused to expend sums of money to defend themselves in the Court proceedings relating to the false arrests.
- 25. Plaintiffs are entitled to compensation for the constitutional harms inflicted upon them by the Defendants including personal injury and loss of liberty.

# COUNT I Violation of Civil Rights Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983 Plaintiffs v. All Defendants

- 26. Plaintiffs incorporate herein by reference the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1-25 of this Complaint.
- 27. In committing the acts complained of herein, Defendants acted under color of state law to deprive the incapacitated plaintiffs of certain constitutionally protected rights under the Fourth, Fifth, Eighth, and Fourteenth Amendments to the Constitution of the United States of America including, but not limited to: a) the right to be free from unreasonable searches and

- 5 - Case ID: 13120269!

seizures; b) the right not to be deprived of liberty without due process of law; c) the right to be

free from excessive use of force by person acting under color of state law; d) the right to be free

from false arrest; e) the right to be free from cruel and unusual punishment; and f) the right to be

free from bodily restraint.

28. In violating Plaintiffs' rights set forth above and other rights that will be proven at

trial, Defendants acted under color of state law and conducted an unauthorized, illegal, and false

arrest of Plaintiffs. The false arrest set into motion the chain of events that led to the

unauthorized and excessive use of force by the Defendants, unconstitutional bodily restraint,

false imprisonment, as well as cruel and unusual punishment by the Defendants in violation of

Plaintiffs' rights under the Fourth, Fifth, Eighth, and Fourteenth Amendments to the

Constitution.

29. As a direct and proximate result of the violation of Plaintiffs, Joseph and Andrea

Posimo's constitutional rights by the Defendants, Plaintiffs suffered the general and special

damages as alleged in this Complaint and is entitled to relief under 42 U.S.C. § 1983.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs, Joseph Posimo and Andrea Posimo, h/w, claim of

defendants, jointly and severally, a sum in excess of fifty-thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) in

damages, exclusive of interest and costs, delay damages, pursuant to Pa.R.C.P. 238 and

attorneys' fees and brings this action to recover the same.

COUNT II

Violation of Civil Rights Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983

(Failure to Implement Appropriate Policies, Customs, and Practices)

Plaintiffs v. All Defendants

-6-

30. Plaintiffs incorporate herein by reference the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1-

29 of this Complaint.

Case ID: 131202699

- 31. Defendant Charles Ramsey, in his capacity as Commissioner of the Police Department of the City of Philadelphia, and Defendant City of Philadelphia implicitly or explicitly adopted and implemented careless and reckless policies, customs, or practices that included, *inter alia*, allowing employees of the police department to make false arrests, falsely imprison detainees and improper use of restraints on detainees.
- 32. The failure of the Police Commissioner, Charles Ramsey, and the City of Philadelphia to adequately train and supervise Defendant, Robert Kane and his supervisors in the Fifteenth (15<sup>th</sup>) District, amounts to deliberate indifference to the rights of Plaintiffs, Joseph and Andrea Posimo, to be free from false arrest and imprisonment, excessive force, and cruel and unusual punishment under the Fourth, Fifth, Eighth, and Fourteenth Amendments to the Constitution of the United States.
- 33. As a result of the deliberate indifference to the rights of Plaintiffs, Plaintiffs suffered personal injuries and additional damages and are entitled to relief under 42 U.S.C. § 1983.
- 34. In committing the acts complained of herein, Defendants acted under color of state law to deprive the incapacitated plaintiffs of certain constitutionally protected rights under the Fourth, Fifth, Eighth, and Fourteenth Amendments to the Constitution of the United States of America including, but not limited to: a) the right to be free from unreasonable searches and seizures; b) the right not to be deprived of liberty without due process of law; c) the right to be free from excessive use of force by person acting under color of state law; d) the right to be free from false arrest; e) the right to be free from cruel and unusual punishment; and f) the right to be free from bodily restraint.

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WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs, Joseph Posimo and Andrea Posimo, h/w, claim of defendants, jointly and severally, a sum in excess of fifty-thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) in damages, exclusive of interest and costs, delay damages, pursuant to Pa.R.C.P. 238 and attorneys' fees and brings this action to recover the same.

**COUNT III** 

Violation of Civil Rights Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983 (Use of Excessive Force) Plaintiffs v. All Defendants

- 35. Plaintiffs incorporate herein by reference the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1-34 of this Complaint.
- 36. The Defendant, City of Philadelphia, has adopted policies, procedures, practices or customs within the Philadelphia Police Department that allow, *inter alia*, the use of excessive force, including excessive and improper use of the restraints and imprisonment.
- 37. The actions of Defendant, City of Philadelphia, amount to deliberate indifference to the rights of Plaintiffs, Joseph and Andrea Posimo, to be free from excessive force and unreasonable searches and seizures under the Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments to the Constitution of the United States.
- 38. As a result of the deliberate indifference to the right of Plaintiffs and excessive force exercised by the Defendants, Plaintiffs suffered personal injuries and additional damages and are entitled to relief under 42 U.S.C. § 1983.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs, Joseph Posimo and Andrea Posimo, h/w, claim of defendants, jointly and severally, a sum in excess of fifty-thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) in damages, exclusive of interest and costs, delay damages, pursuant to Pa.R.C.P. 238 and attorneys' fees and brings this action to recover the same.

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#### **COUNT IV**

# Violation of Civil Rights Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983 (False Arrest)

# Plaintiffs v. All Defendants

- 39. Plaintiffs incorporate herein by reference the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1-38 of this Complaint.
- 40. In committing the acts complained of herein, Defendant Robert Kane acted under color of state law by falsely arresting and detaining the Plaintiffs with no basis in fact or law to do so. In violating Plaintiffs' right to be free from false arrest, the Defendants violated Plaintiff's rights under the Fourth, Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to the Constitution of the United States.
- 41. As a direct and proximate result of the violation of their constitutional right to be free from false arrest by the Defendants, Plaintiffs suffered personal injuries and additional damages and are entitled to relief under 42 U.S.C. § 1983.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs, Joseph Posimo and Andrea Posimo, h/w, claim of defendants, jointly and severally, a sum in excess of fifty-thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) in damages, exclusive of interest and costs, delay damages, pursuant to Pa.R.C.P. 238 and attorneys' fees and brings this action to recover the same.

#### COUNT V

# Violation of Civil Rights Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983 (Cruel and Unusual Punishment) Plaintiffs v. All Defendants

- 42. Plaintiffs incorporate herein by reference the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1-41 of this Complaint.
- 43. Defendants violated the rights of Plaintiffs, Joseph and Andrea Posimo, by placing Plaintiffs in restraints and imprisoning them while no basis in fact or law supported an

arrest. This conduct on the part of Defendants amounted to unlawful punishment of a pretrial detainee without adjudication of guilt in violation of Fourth, Fifth, Eighth and Fourteenth Amendments to the Constitution of the United States.

44. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants actions, which were in violation of Plaintiffs constitutional rights outlined above, Plaintiffs suffered personal injuries and additional damages and are entitled to relief under 42 U.S.C. § 1983.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs, Joseph Posimo and Andrea Posimo, h/w, claim of defendants, jointly and severally, a sum in excess of fifty-thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) in damages, exclusive of interest and costs, delay damages, pursuant to Pa.R.C.P. 238 and attorneys' fees and brings this action to recover the same.

## COUNT VI (Negligence) Plaintiffs v. All Defendants

- 45. Plaintiffs incorporate herein by reference the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1-44 of this Complaint.
- 46. Defendants, the City of Philadelphia and Ramsey owed Plaintiffs a duty to use due care at or about the time of the aforementioned incident.
- 47. In committing the aforementioned acts and/or omissions, each Defendant negligently breached said duty to use due care, which directly and proximately resulted in the injuries and damages to the Plaintiffs as alleged herein.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs, Joseph Posimo and Andrea Posimo, h/w, claim of defendants, jointly and severally, a sum in excess of fifty-thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) in damages, exclusive of interest and costs, delay damages, pursuant to Pa.R.C.P. 238 and attorneys' fees and brings this action to recover the same.

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# COUNT VII (Assault and Battery) Plaintiffs v. All Defendants

- 48. Plaintiffs incorporate herein by reference the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1-47 of this Complaint.
- 49. The aforesaid acts of the Defendants constitute an assault and battery upon the persons of Plaintiffs, Joseph and Andrea Posimo, and represent conduct that his outrageous and intolerable in a civilized society.
- 50. The Defendants' actions were committed during the course and scope of their employment with the Philadelphia Police Department and while acting under color of state law.
- 51. As a direct and proximate result of the assault and battery committed by the Defendants, Plaintiffs were caused to suffer the severe and permanent physical injuries outlined herein and is entitled to economic and non-economic damages.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs, Joseph Posimo and Andrea Posimo, h/w, claim of defendants, jointly and severally, a sum in excess of fifty-thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) in damages, exclusive of interest and costs, delay damages, pursuant to Pa.R.C.P. 238 and attorneys' fees and brings this action to recover the same.

# COUNT VIII (Intentional Infliction of Emotional Distress) Plaintiffs v. All Defendants

- 52. Plaintiffs incorporate herein by reference the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1-51 of this Complaint.
- 53. The aforesaid intentional acts of the Defendant, Robert Kane, by and through his false arrest, imprisonment and unsubstantiated charges against Plaintiffs constitutes

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intentional infliction of emotional distress upon the persons of Plaintiffs, Joseph and Andrea Posimo.

- 54. The Defendant's actions were committed during the course and scope of their employment with the Philadelphia Police Department and while acting under color of state law.
- 55. As a direct and proximate result of the assault and battery committed by the Defendants, Plaintiffs were caused to suffer the severe and permanent physical injuries outlined herein and is entitled to economic and non-economic damages.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs, Joseph Posimo and Andrea Posimo, h/w, claim of defendants, jointly and severally, a sum in excess of fifty-thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) in damages, exclusive of interest and costs, delay damages, pursuant to Pa.R.C.P. 238 and attorneys' fees and brings this action to recover the same.

# COUNT IX (Negligent Infliction of Emotional Distress) Plaintiffs v. All Defendants

- 56. Plaintiffs incorporate herein by reference the allegations set forth in paragraphs 1-55 of this Complaint.
- 57. The aforesaid acts and/or omissions of Defendants, by and through their negligent supervision of its agents, employees, officers, and/or workmen, constitute negligent infliction of emotional distress upon the persons of Plaintiffs, Joseph and Andrea Posimo.
- 58. The Defendant's actions were committed during the course and scope of their employment with the Philadelphia Police Department and while acting under color of state law.

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59. As a direct and proximate result of the assault and battery committed by the Defendants, Plaintiffs were caused to suffer the severe and permanent physical injuries outlined herein and is entitled to economic and non-economic damages.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs, Joseph Posimo and Andrea Posimo, h/w, claim of defendants, jointly and severally, a sum in excess of fifty-thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) in damages, exclusive of interest and costs, delay damages, pursuant to Pa.R.C.P. 238 and attorneys' fees and brings this action to recover the same.

Respectfully submitted,

LAFFEY, BUCCI & KENT, LLP

By:

V. PAUL BUCCI, II, ESQUIRE

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

Date: December 20, 2013

**VERIFICATION** 

V. PAUL BUCCI, II, ESQUIRE, hereby state that I am the attorney for the Plaintiff, in

the foregoing lawsuit, and verify that the statements made in the foregoing Complaint, are true

and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief, and I understand that the

statements in said pleading are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa. C.S.A. Section 4904

relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.

LAFFEY, BUCCI & KENT, LLP

BY:

V. PAUL BUCCI, II, ESQUIRE

Dated: December 20, 2013

### 

#### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA - DESIGNATION FORM to be used by counsel to indicate the category of the case for the purpose of assignment to appropriate calendar. Address of Plaintiff: 625 Hoffenagle Street, Philadelphia, PA 19111 City of Philadelphia Law Department, 1515 Arch Street, 14th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19102 Address of Defendant: \_\_\_ Place of Accident, Incident or Transaction: 625 Hoffenagle Street, Philadelphia, PA 19111 (Use Reverse Side For Additional Space) Does this civil action involve a nongovernmental corporate party with any parent corporation and any publicly held corporation owning 10% or more of its stock? (Attach two copies of the Disclosure Statement Form in accordance with Fed.R.Civ.P. 7.1(a)). Yes 🗆 No  $\square$ Does this case involve multidistrict litigation possibilities? Yes □ No □ RELATED CASE IF ANY: Case Number: \_ Judge Date Terminated: Civil cases are deemed related when yes is answered to any of the following questions: 1. Is this case related to property included in an earlier numbered suit pending or within one year previously terminated action in this court? Does this case involve the same issue of fact or grow out of the same transaction as a prior suit pending or within one year previously terminated action in this court? Does this case involve the validity or infringement of a patent already in suit or any earlier numbered case pending or within one year previously terminated action in this court? Yes □ No □ CIVIL: (Place in ONE CATEGORY ONLY) A. Federal Question Cases: B. Diversity Jurisdiction Cases: ☐ Indemnity Contract, Marine Contract, and All Other Contracts 1. 

Insurance Contract and Other Contracts 2. 2. Airplane Personal Injury 3. ☐ Jones Act - Personal Injury 3. Assault, Defamation 4. ☐ Antitrust 4. Marine Personal Injury 5. Patent 5. 🗆 Motor Vehicle personal Injury ☐ Labor-Management Relations Other Personal Injury (Please specify) 6. 7. Civil Rights Products Liability ☐ Habeas Corpus 8. 

Products liability - Asbestos ጸ ☐ Securities Act(s) Cases 9. 9. All other Diversity Cases Social Security Review Cases 10. (Please specify) ☐ All Other Federal Questions Cases (Please specify) ARBITRATION CERTIFICATION (Check appropriate Category) I, John Coyle \_\_\_\_\_, counsel of record do hereby certify: Pursuant to Local Rule 53.3 A, civil rights cases are excluded from arbitration. ☐ Pursuant to Local Civil Rule 53.2, Section 3(c)(2), that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the damages recoverable in this civil action case exceed the sum of \$150,000.00 exclusive of interest and costs; ☐ Relief other than monetary damages is sought. DATE: Attorney I.D. # Attorney-at-Law NOTE: A trial de novo will be a trial by jury only if there has been compliance with F.R.C.P. 38. I certify that, to my knowledge, the within case is not related to any case now pending or within one year previously terminated action in this court except as noted above.

John Coyle, Esquire

Attorney I.D. #

CIV. 609 (4/03)

Attorney-at-Law

# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

JOSEPH POSIMO and ANDREA POSIMO, h/w 625 Hoffenagle Street	•	PHILADELPHIA COUNTY COURT OF COMMON PLEAS
Philadelphia, PA 19111	•	DECEMBER TERM 2013
Plaintiffs,	:	No. 002699
v.	:	
	:	
THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA	:	JURY TRIAL DEMANDED
1515 Arch Street, 14th Floor	:	
Philadelphia, PA 19102	:	
	:	
CHARLES RAMSEY	:	
One Franklin Square, Room 314	:	
Philadelphia, PA 19106	:	
• ′	:	
ROBERT KANE	:	
9300 Treaty Road	:	
Philadelphia, PA 19114	:	
• /	:	
Defendants.	:	

#### CASE MANAGEMENT TRACK DESIGNATION FORM

In accordance with the Civil Justice Expense and Delay Reduction Plan of this court, counsel for plaintiff shall complete a Case Management Track Designation Form in all civil cases at the time of filing the complaint and serve a copy on all defendants. (See § 1:03 of the plan set forth on the reverse side of this form.) In the event that a defendant does not agree with the plaintiff regarding said designation, that defendant shall, with its first appearance, submit to the clerk of court and serve on the plaintiff and all other parties, a case management track designation form specifying the track to which that defendant believes the case should be assigned.

#### SELECT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING CASE MANAGEMENT TRACKS:

(a)	Habeas Corpus Cases brought under 28 U.S.C. §2241through § 2255.	(	)
(b)	Social Security Cases requesting review of a decision of the Secretary of Health and Human Services denying plaintiff Social Security Benefits.	(	)
(c)	Arbitration Cases required to be designated for arbitration under Local Civil Rule 53.2.	(	)

(d) Asbestos -- Cases involving claims for personal injury or property damage from

## ( ) exposure to asbestos. (e) Special Management -- Cases that do not fall into tracks (a) through (d) that are commonly referred to as complex and that need special or intense management by the court. (See reverse side of this form for a detailed explanation of special management cases.) ( ) (f) Standard Management -- Cases that do not fall into any one of the other tracks. (X) **Defendants** fohn/Coyle, E Attorney for (215) 683-5447 (215) 683-5397 john.coyle@phila.gov

E-mail Address

FAX Number

(Civ. 660) 10/02

Telephone